

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An aqueous composition comprising from 15 to 30% of 4,5-dichloro-2-octyl-3(2H)-isothiazolone, at least one inorganic filler, 0.2 to 5% of at least one nonionic surfactant and no more than 5% organic solvent; said composition being stable with regard to agglomeration and phase separation for at least three months at room temperature.

Claim 2 has been cancelled.

3. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1 containing from 18% to 25% of 4,5-dichloro-2-octyl-3(2H)-isothiazolone.

4. (currently amended) The composition of claim 3 in which said at least one inorganic filler comprises titanium dioxide and kaolin in a total amount from 6% to 10%, the composition contains no more than 2% organic solvent, ~~and~~ the composition further comprises at least one thickener and at least 2% of at least one copper salt, and the nonionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of 2,4,7,9-tetramethyl-5-decyne-4,7-diol and C₉-C₁₁ alcohols ethoxylated with about 10 moles of ethylene oxide.

5. (original) The composition of claim 4 in which said at least one organic solvent comprises at least one solvent selected from di-glycol solvents and tri-glycol solvents.

6. (currently amended) A method for producing an aqueous dispersion comprising from 15 to 30% of 4,5-dichloro-2-octyl-3(2H)-isothiazolone, at least one inorganic filler, 0.2 to 5% of at least one nonionic surfactant and no more than 5% organic solvent; said dispersion being stable with regard to agglomeration and phase separation for at least three months at room temperature; said method

comprising combining in water said organic compound, the inorganic filler and the surfactant, at a temperature from 0°C to 35°C with agitation to provide a substantially uniform dispersion.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 6 in which the dispersion contains from 18% to 25% of 4,5-dichloro-2-octyl-3(2H)-isothiazolone, and the temperature is maintained from 2°C to 25°C.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 7 in which said at least one inorganic filler comprises titanium dioxide and kaolin in a total amount from 6% to 10%, the dispersion contains no more than 2% organic solvent, ~~and~~ the composition further comprises at least one thickener and at least 2% of at least one copper salt, and the nonionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of 2,4,7,9-tetramethyl-5-decyne-4,7-diol and C₉-C₁₁ alcohols ethoxylated with about 10 moles of ethylene oxide.

Claim 9 has been cancelled.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 in which the 4,5-dichloro-2-octyl-3(2H)-isothiazolone is melted prior to addition to other ingredients.